

Praying In The Power of The Holy Spirit, Part III – Code Of The Prayer Warrior

I have called this discussion, Praying in the Power Of The Holy Spirit, Part 3 – The Code Of The Prayer Warrior. Now that we have cleaned up the Temple Of The Holy Spirit by judging and putting to death our sins we now move to living life as a Prayer Warrior. All believers are predestinated for this lifestyle. As a prayer warrior consistently praying in the power of the Holy Spirit, we must also live a life of training, discipline, sacrifice and combat. We must not forget that part of our identity in Christ is that of a soldier. That means we are engaged in spiritual warfare and we must go out into the battle and be on the offensive by doing evangelism and preaching the Gospel to those who are lost.

- *2 Timothy 2:3-4 Thou therefore endure hardness, as a good soldier of Jesus Christ. No man that warreth entangleth himself with the affairs of this life; that he may please him who hath chosen him to be a soldier.*

New USA military recruits' initial training generally span in the neighborhood of 22 weeks. The first 10 weeks of training are for all raw recruits. The last 12 weeks tend to focus on their role they'll play in the military. For infantryman this regimen expands upon the tactics, weapons knowledge and skills, hand-to-hand combat, and other skills required for a soldier dedicated to being an infantryman for the next twenty or thirty years. Specialized skills, tactics and combat are the key elements of this training. Learning to pray in the power of the Holy Spirit also requires specialized skills and knowledge if we are to be a successful prayer warrior interceding on behalf of our brothers, sisters, the lost and ourselves.

The Code of The Prayer Warrior includes

1) Faith (Courage to be faithful)

- a) Without faith and the courage to be faithful, you cannot live a victorious Christian life. You will not be an effective prayer warrior unless you pray in the power of the Holy Spirit. The word "courage" comes from the Latin word "heart" which really applies to every part of your life. It takes courage to stand for and follow Jesus and live according to God's law. It takes courage to follow God, to know and do that which is right, especially when our society will ridicule or even hate you because you dare stand for the truth and follow Jesus Christ. In our politically correct society, courage is more important than ever. A Prayer Warrior's faith will be challenged on a daily basis. Therefore a prayer warrior must have the unwavering conviction to courageously live by faith.

- *Habakkuk 2:4 Behold, his soul which is lifted up is not upright in him: but the just shall live by his faith.*

- *Romans 1:17 For therein is the righteousness of God revealed from faith to faith: as it is written, The just shall live by faith.*
- *Galatians 3:11 But that no man is justified by the law in the sight of God, it is evident: for, The just shall live by faith.*
- *Hebrews 10:38 Now the just shall live by faith: but if any man draw back, my soul shall have no pleasure in him*

2) Truth

- a) Believers need enough confidence in God and His Word so that their actions remain true to God, everything they say is truthful. Truth means abiding in Christ and the Word of God. Paul in his letter to the Ephesians emphasized that a believer must always be truthful and never lie. This sounds easy, however, lying has become so commonplace that it is almost expected in today's world. It must never be this way for the true prayer warrior. Lying, in most cases, is an act of cowardice, of one's inability to face the truth, of one's continued rebellion to God. If the Warrior's life doesn't reflect that they are abiding in the word and abiding in Jesus Christ, a Spring House Cleaning is overdue. It takes faith and courage to be a truthful person. By abiding in Christ you may not be perfect, but your daily lifestyle will conform more and more to the image of Christ God has predestined for you and you yourself will strive to live honorably, not wanting to lie. The true prayer warrior must consistently make truth a part of his or her daily life, and every action evaluated as to its Godliness and if originated from pure intentions.
- *Ephesians 4:25 Wherefore putting away lying, speak every man truth with his neighbour: for we are members one of another.*
 - *Colossians 3:9 Lie not one to another, seeing that ye have put off the old man with his deeds;*
 - *Exodus 20:16 Thou shalt not bear false witness against thy neighbour*
 - *John 8:44 Ye are of your father the devil, and the lusts of your father ye will do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and abode not in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaketh a lie, he speaketh of his own: for he is a liar, and the father of it.*
 - *Jeremiah 9:1-6 Oh that my head were waters, and mine eyes a fountain of tears, that I might weep day and night for the slain of the daughter of my people! (2) Oh that I had in the wilderness a lodging place of wayfaring men; that I might leave my people, and go from them! for they be all adulterers, an assembly of treacherous men. (3) And they bend their tongues like their bow for lies: but they are not valiant for the truth upon the earth; for they proceed from evil to evil, and they know not me, saith the Lord. (4) Take ye heed every one of his neighbour, and trust ye not in any brother: for every brother will utterly supplant, and every neighbour will walk with slanders. (5) And they will deceive everyone his neighbour, and will not speak the truth: they have taught their tongue to speak lies,*

and weary themselves to commit iniquity. (6) Thine habitation is in the midst of deceit; through deceit they refuse to know me, saith the Lord.

- *Psalm 5:9 For there is no faithfulness in their mouth; their inward part is very wickedness; their throat is an open sepulchre; they flatter with their tongue.*

3) Honor

- a) The Prayer Warrior's honor is determined by their internal integrity to abide in Christ, rightfully dividing the Word of God, and living to further the Kingdom. God, the Holy Spirit, determines your honor by how true you stay to His laws, doctrines, and commands. The keyword is consistency. Being honorable should be so entrenched in our lifestyle that it becomes second-nature. Without honor, one is a defeated Christian and no longer praying effectively. Many people wrongfully conclude that their honor simply has to do with their reputation, but that is not true. The honorable prayer warrior will have very few regrets in life because God will know that this warrior has done the best that he can to live a life of honor with truth and purity of intention.

- *John 15:8 By this My Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit; so you will be My disciples.*
- *Proverbs 3:9 Honour the Lord with thy substance, and with the firstfruits of all thine increase*
- *1 Corinthians 10:31 Whether therefore ye eat, or drink, or whatsoever ye do, do all to the glory of God.*
- *1 Corinthians 6:19 What? know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost which is in you, which ye have of God, and ye are not your own?*

4) Fidelity

- a) The word fidelity simply means being faithful. It takes courage to be faithful and the degree of faithfulness is the level of one's fidelity. There are many things that you can be faithful to, not all of them are honorable. Fidelity is being faithful and loyal to God, to yourself, your ministry, your family, and your fellow believers. The Prayer Warrior will defend his faith no matter the cost, because of his dedication, his fidelity to God Almighty.

- *Matthew 25:21 His lord said unto him, Well done, thou good and faithful servant: thou hast been faithful over a few things, I will make thee ruler over many things: enter thou into the joy of thy lord.*
- *Luke 16:10-12 He that is faithful in that which is least is faithful also in much: and he that is unjust in the least is unjust also in much. (11) If therefore ye have not been faithful in the unrighteous mammon, who will commit to your trust the true riches? (12) And if ye have not been faithful in that which is another man's, who shall give you that which is your own?*
- *1 Corinthians 4:2 Moreover it is required in stewards, that a man be found faithful.*

- *Revelation 2:10 Fear none of those things which thou shalt suffer: behold, the devil shall cast some of you into prison, that ye may be tried; and ye shall have tribulation ten days: be thou faithful unto death, and I will give thee a crown of life.*

5) Discipline

- a) Discipline mostly means self-discipline. These virtues or qualities are not perfected overnight. It takes discipline to live according to God's code of ethics, so we can be grateful that we are empowered by the full God head to live the Christian life. In order for the warrior to stay true to his own principles and virtues, he must develop self-discipline. Paul noted this in Romans 7 and concluded ...
 - *Romans 7:18-25 For I know that in me (that is, in my flesh,) dwelleth no good thing: for to will is present with me; but how to perform that which is good I find not. (19) For the good that I would I do not: but the evil which I would not, that I do. (20) Now if I do that I would not, it is no more I that do it, but sin that dwelleth in me. (21) I find then a law, that, when I would do good, evil is present with me. (22) For I delight in the law of God after the inward man: (23) But I see another law in my members, warring against the law of my mind, and bringing me into captivity to the law of sin which is in my members. (24) O wretched man that I am! who shall deliver me from the body of this death? (25) I thank God through Jesus Christ our Lord. So then with the mind I myself serve the law of God; but with the flesh the law of sin.*

6) Hospitality

- a) Without love and compassion for fellow believers or the lost, it will be impossible for a Prayer Warrior to intercede to God on behalf of anyone. The Prayer Warrior is expected to treat others with respect, courtesy, and dignity. God expects the warrior to live in peace with others, and He expects the lost to know His saints because of the greatness of their love for one another. God Almighty created everyone and Jesus Christ paid the price so that all sinners can be saved through faith by the Grace of God. It is irrelevant to consider if a stranger deserves a warrior's hospitality. What matters is that the warrior treats everyone with respect, love, and courtesy, without exception. Because this is how God has predestined Prayer Warriors are to behave toward other people. It has to do with the warrior's honor and hospitality. What others deserve has nothing to do with the warrior's extending Godly hospitality in love.
 - *Hebrews 12:14 Follow peace with all men, and holiness, without which no man shall see the Lord:*
 - *Romans 12:18 If it be possible, as much as lieth in you, live peaceably with all men.*

- *Ephesians 2:8-9 For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: (9) Not of works, lest any man should boast.*
- *John 13:34-35 A new commandment I give unto you, That ye love one another; as I have loved you, that ye also love one another.(35) By this shall all men know that ye are my disciples, if ye have love one to another.*

7) Industriousness

a) Industriousness simply means the willingness to work hard at whatever the Prayer Warrior does. If something is worth doing, do it well. Do it with pride and do it to the utmost of your ability. Scripture talks a lot about working hard with happiness while serving God at our workplace. The warrior is to always work as if working directly for God and not a human employer. The Bible tells us that hard work will always bring some type of profit. When we think about profit, we tend to think about money, but it can be anything. The Prayer Warrior must work hard and smart to balance the care of his/her family/occupation/walk with God and to be successful in their intercessory ministry. The true warrior is a person of excellence doing everything with care and detail. Warriors set high expectations for themselves in everything that they do, and they refuse to lower their standards or alter their belief in Jesus and all that the Bible teaches.

- *Colossians 3:23 And whatsoever ye do, do it heartily, as to the Lord, and not unto men;*
- *Philippians 4:13 I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me.*
- *Psalms 90:13 And let the beauty of the Lord our God be upon us: and establish thou the work of our hands upon us; yea, the work of our hands establish thou it.*
- *Jeremiah 29:11 And let the beauty of the Lord our God be upon us: and establish thou the work of our hands upon us; yea, the work of our hands establish thou it.*
- *Proverbs 14:11 In all labour there is profit: but the talk of the lips tendeth only to penury.*

8) Self-Reliance

a) Warriors are by nature independent beings. Depending on God is basic to the Christian life. The warrior trusts in, or depends on God for salvation, for wisdom, and for everything and in everything. The psalmist teaches the Lord's reliability with the three-fold description "*the LORD is my rock, my fortress and my deliverer*" This doesn't mean that the warrior doesn't like other people or enjoy being around other people, but rather that their reliance is totally upon God Almighty. Being frugal and financially stable is an important part of being self-reliant. Depend only upon God the father, in the name of Jesus through the leadership of the Holy Spirit and not other people for your welfare.

- *Ephesians 2:8–9 For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: (9) Not of works, lest any man should boast.*
- *James 1:5 If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him.*
- *Psalms 104:27 These wait all upon thee; that thou mayest give them their meat in due season.*
- *Proverbs 3:5–6 Trust in the Lord with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. (6) In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths.*
- *Psalms 18:2 The Lord is my rock, and my fortress, and my deliverer; my God, my strength, in whom I will trust; my buckler, and the horn of my salvation, and my high tower.*

9) Perseverance

- a) No one is perfect and Prayer Warriors make mistakes. In order to live the warrior lifestyle, they cannot simply give up and quit whenever they fall short of God's mark. The Prayer Warrior must persevere, must never give up because the warrior's code of honor is too important to give up when the going gets tough. The warrior lifestyle is a lifelong way of living. Being a Prayer Warrior is not something you try; it is something you are. It is a way of living, a way of being. You don't try to be a warrior – you either are a Prayer Warrior or you are not. You either have honor and integrity or you do not. For the true warrior, when he/she sins it doesn't mean failing, it means learning, confessing our sin to Jesus our lawyer and our propitiation who stands before God Almighty on our behalf as well as for the sins of the whole world. The Prayer Warrior is determined, perseveres over sin and is always committed to do better in the future by continuously abiding in Christ. Perseverance is essential in living the Prayer Warrior's lifestyle.

- *Romans 3:23-25 For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God; (24) Being justified freely by his grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus: (25) Whom God hath set forth to be a propitiation through faith in his blood, to declare his righteousness for the remission of sins that are past, through the forbearance of God;*
- *1 John 2:1-2 My little children, these things write I unto you, that ye sin not. And if any man sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous:(2) And he is the propitiation for our sins: and not for ours only, but also for the sins of the whole world.*

10) Intelligence

- a) The final Warrior Code is Intelligence. Intelligence is not just how smart one is, rather in the military sense where facts and data are crafted together to provide the warrior with information so he/she can ascertain what the enemy is up to. Satan has always been the enemy of mankind because God created man for eternal fellowship with Him. Therefore all believers are Satan's enemy. Each Prayer

Warrior is in a real war and fighting real spiritual battles. Satan was once holy and enjoyed heavenly honors but through pride and ambition sought to conquer God and become god. He rebelled against God and seeks to replace God. Satan persuaded a host of angels to join with him in this great rebellion. The Bible calls Satan the malignant prince of the power of the air, and the unholy god of this world.

- b) Satan is man's greatest tempter well as the enemy of God and of Jesus Christ, the Holy Spirit, the accuser of the saints, the author of all false religions, the chief power behind the present apostasy; the lord of the Antichrist, and the author of all the powers and darkness – destined, however, to final defeat at the hands of God's Son, and the judgment of an eternal justice in hell, a real place prepared for him and his angels. Those who deny the existence of a personal devil have no biblical basis upon which to base their conclusions.
- c) Every believer is despised by Satan and he uses several tactics to defeat Christians including:

1. Denial of his (Satan's) existence.

- a. The Bible says that God desires, perhaps above all else, to be believed in (*But without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him. Hebrews 11.6*). The opposite appears to be Satan's objective, as he seems to thrive best when he is either underestimated, ignored or denied.

2. Knows scripture thoroughly

- a. The Gospel tells us that during the second temptation of Christ, the devil quoted Psalm 91:11-12. He took it completely out of context right in front of Jesus, the Son of God, and twisted it. Such arrogance. You can be assured that Satan will twist and turn Scriptures in such a way as to mislead saints and sinners alike.

3. Prevent Salvation

- a. Ultimately Satan would do everything in his power to prevent the lost being saved and believers from sharing the good news of the Gospel. Many methods are employed including false witnesses and teachers, cults like the Jehovah's Witnesses or the Mormon missionaries, false teachers on the radio or television, and etc...
- b. Believers and sinners are encouraged to attend "the church of their choice" faithfully, or that it is OK to believe in any faith so long as one is sincere in their beliefs. (Well, one can be sincerely wrong.)
- c. Satan involves sinners and believers in good works. He has substituted the Red Cross for the Old Rugged cross. Or better yet, tries to substitute the Lord Jesus with Lord Calvert hung on a jug.
- d. Sex, drugs, money, power, and self-gratification would all be the focus of saints and sinners rather than Jesus. Justification would give way to demonstration and ecology would replace theology.

4. Stop Spiritual Growth

- a. God insists that the warrior be properly attired and abiding in Him and His Word.
- b. Are you ever overwhelmed by how difficult it is to live a life that is pleasing to God? If the temptations of the world and the sin within our own hearts isn't enough, Satan is also working overtime to see to every believer's destruction, downfall, or weakening. He has no compassion, he doesn't care how hard life is for believers or all the trials and tribulations they have experienced. He rejoices in their difficulties and focuses upon destroying all believers.
- c. Satan is cunning, crafty, and more powerful than believers give him credit for and therefore a being to be guarded against and fought against. He has the experience of all kinds of evil on his side as well as the fact that he never grows tired and never gives up spewing his hatred for Christ and his bride.
- d. Satan hates Christians because . . . they have escaped out of his hand, they oppose his kingdom and government; and they hate sin, and pray, and pray, and strive for holiness.
- e. Satan Seeks to destroy all Christians
 - i. He plants doubts and lies
 1. *Genesis 3:1-4 Now the serpent was more cunning than any beast of the field which the Lord God had made. And he said to the woman, "Has God indeed said, 'You shall not eat of every tree of the garden'?" (2) And the woman said to the serpent, "We may eat the fruit of the trees of the garden; (3) but of the fruit of the tree which is in the midst of the garden, God has said, 'You shall not eat it, nor shall you touch it, lest you die.' " (4) Then the serpent said to the woman, "You will not surely die. 5 For God knows that in the day you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil."*
 - ii. He fights against your faith
 1. *Ephesians 6:12 For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of [a]the darkness of this age, against spiritual hosts of wickedness in the heavenly places.*
 - iii. He will tempt you with sexual immorality
 1. *1 Corinthians 7:5 Do not deprive one another except with consent for a time, that you may give yourselves to fasting and prayer; and come together again so that Satan does not tempt you because of your lack of self-control.*

- iv. He will try to cause disunity amongst Christians
 - 1. *2 Corinthians 11:13-15 For such are false apostles, deceitful workers, transforming themselves into apostles of Christ. (14) And no wonder! For Satan himself transforms himself into an angel of light. (15) Therefore it is no great thing if his ministers also transform themselves into ministers of righteousness, whose end will be according to their works.*
- v. He will slander you before God
 - 1. *Revelation 12:10 Then I heard a loud voice saying in heaven, "Now salvation, and strength, and the kingdom of our God, and the power of His Christ have come, for the accuser of our brethren, who accused them before our God day and night, has been cast down.*
- vi. He will try to take you down through pride
 - 1. *1 Peter 5:6-8 Therefore humble yourselves under the mighty hand of God, that He may exalt you in due time, (7) casting all your care upon Him, for He cares for you.(8) Be [a]sober, be [b]vigilant; [c]because your adversary the devil walks about like a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour.*
- vii. He will persecute you for your faith
 - 1. *Revelation 2:10 Do not fear any of those things which you are about to suffer. Indeed, the devil is about to throw some of you into prison, that you may be tested, and you will have tribulation ten days. Be faithful until death, and I will give you the crown of life.*
- viii. He will try to cripple your faith through fear
 - 1. *2 Corinthians 4:8-9 We are hard-pressed on every side, yet not crushed; we are perplexed, but not in despair; (9) persecuted, but not forsaken; struck down, but not destroyed—*
- ix. He will try to sidetrack you with worldly things
 - 1. *1 John 2:15-17 Do not love the world or the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him. 16 For all that is in the world—the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life—is not of the Father but is of the world. 17 And the world is passing away, and the lust of it; but he who does the will of God abides forever.*

5. Attack the Key Human Institutions

- a. Marriage
- b. Attack human government
- c. Destroy The Church

A fifth strategy the devil deploys is to destroy the holy institutions God has set up to benefit man. We know that God originally created all things for His glory (*Revelation 4:11 Thou art worthy, O Lord, to receive glory and honour and power: for thou hast created all things, and for thy pleasure they are and were created.*). To demonstrate His glory, God set up three human “foundations of the faith” institutions which Satan has ruthlessly, consistently, and viciously attacked throughout the centuries with obliteration as its ultimate objective.

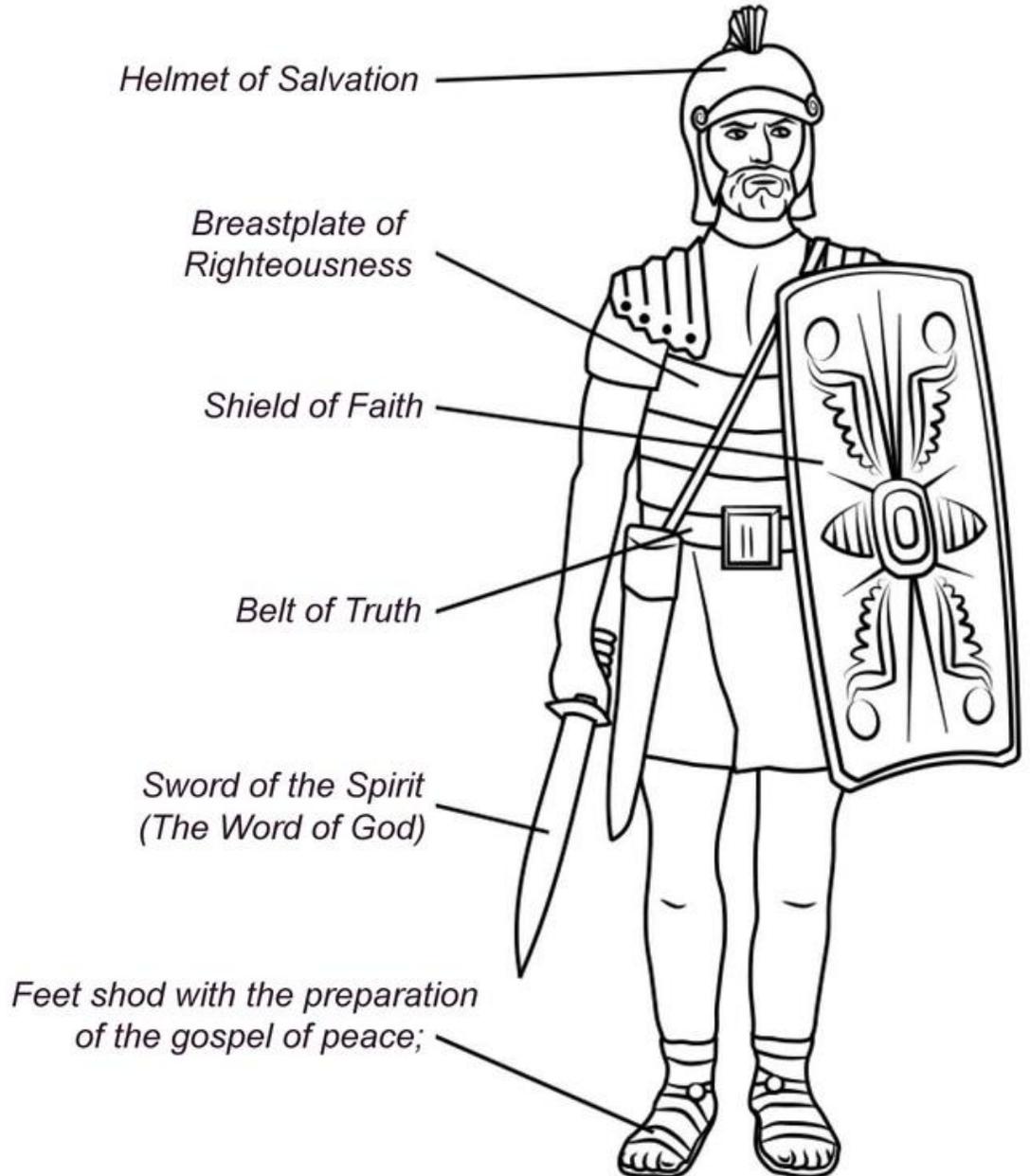
Today divorce rates are rapidly climbing along with gay marriages. Nearly every government institution is racked with ineptness, scandal and a totally humanist (anti-God) view for law, morality, and standards. People actually hate Christians if they're good and good for God's sake. Shockingly, Christianity is struggling to survive in traditional Christian countries.

The Prayer Warriors survive today and continue to carry out the ministry of furthering the Kingdom of God. The Prayer Warrior must put on the entire Armour of God every day. Only then can the Warrior be effective.

Review Ephesians 6:10-20 Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord, and in the power of his might. (11) Put on the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. (12) For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places. (13) Wherefore take unto you the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand. (14) Stand therefore, having your loins girt about with truth, and having on the breastplate of righteousness; (15) And your feet shod with the preparation of the gospel of peace; (16) Above all, taking the shield of faith, wherewith ye shall be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked. (17) And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God: (18) Praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, and watching thereunto with all perseverance and supplication for all saints; (19) And for me, that utterance may be given unto me, that I may open my mouth boldly, to make known the mystery of the gospel, (20) For which I am an ambassador in bonds: that therein I may speak boldly, as I ought to speak.

PUT ON THE FULL ARMOR OF GOD

Ephesians 6:10-18



"Be strong in the Lord and in the strength of His might. Put on the full armor of God, so that you will be able to stand firm against the schemes of the devil. For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the powers, against the world forces of this darkness, against the spiritual forces of wickedness in the heavenly places.